

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 061155

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10 AID-05

EB-08 IGA-02 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /079 R

DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:DTKENNEY:LGR

APPROVED BY EA - ROBERT B. OAKLEY

EA/P - MR. MAGRUDER (INFORMED)

-----190029Z 128385 /70

O 182353Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 061155

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PINS, SHUM, ID

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON TIMOR

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF PRESS GUIDANCE ON TIMOR  
PREPARED FOR MARCH 18 NOON BRIEFING.

2. QUESTION: THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS QUOTED IN THE PRESS  
AS HAVING TOLD CONGRESS YESTERDAY THAT MILITARY AID TO  
INDONESIA WAS CUT OFF FOR SIX MONTHS LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF  
BARBARITIES BY INDONESIAN TROOPS WHO INVADED TIMOR. CAN  
YOU CLARIFY THIS?

ANSWER: THE PRESS ACCOUNT OF WHAT MR. OAKLEY SAID WAS NOT  
ACCURATE. THE FACTS AS STATED ARE THESE: A CIVIL WAR  
BROKE OUT IN THE PORTUGUESE COLONY OF TIMOR IN AUGUST 1975,  
WHICH LED TO PORTUGAL ABRUPTLY WITHDRAWING FROM THE TERRI-  
TORY WITHOUT PREPARING IT FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT. ONE TIMORESE  
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FACTION INHERITED THE GUNS LEFT BY THE PORTUGUESE AND  
CONQUERED MOST OF THE TERRITORY. IT WAS RESISTED BY THE  
OTHER TIMORESE FACTIONS. AT THE REQUEST OF THE LATTER  
INDONESIA INTERVENED MILITARILY IN DECEMBER 1975. SINCE  
MUCH OF THE INDONESIAN ARMY IS EQUIPPED WITH US-EQUIPPED  
WEAPONS, SOME OF THESE WEAPONS WERE USED IN THE OPERATION,  
ALTHOUGH THE INDONESIANS ATTEMPTED TO MINIMIZE THEIR USE.

THE SITUATION IN TIMOR AT THAT TIME WAS HIGHLY CONFUSED. IN LIGHT OF THIS, ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION WAS TAKEN TO REVIEW THE SITUATION. DURING THE REVIEW THERE WAS AN ADMINISTRATIVE HOLD ON NEW DELIVERIES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO INDONESIA. THIS LASTED FOR A PERIOD OF ABOUT SIX MONTHS, FROM DECEMBER 1975 TO JUNE 1976. MILITARY AID WAS RESUMED IN JUNE 1976.

THERE WAS NO QUESTION THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD OF OUR ACTING IN RESPONSE TO ALLEGED INDONESIAN "BARBARITIES" IN TIMOR. WE DID NOT HAVE EVIDENCE OF MASSIVE KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS BY INDONESIAN FORCES AT THAT TIME, AND WE HAVE STILL SEEN NO CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF THE SORT OF REPORTS APPEARING IN THE PRESS. MOST OF THE STORIES APPEAR TO REFER TO EVENTS WHICH OCCURRED OVER A YEAR AGO.

3. THERE WERE NO QUESTIONS ON TIMOR AT NOON BRIEFING.  
VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 061155  
ORIGIN EA-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: EA/RA/WGIM/MJ  
APPROVED BY: EA/RA:RJMARTENS  
EA/IMS:DKENNEY  
EUR/NE:DJEREJIAN  
EUR/NE:SWORREL

-----011937Z 015366 /53

R 310825Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 061155

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION JAKARTA FROM STATE MARCH 18:

QUOTE UNCLAS STATE 061155

E.O. 11652:NA

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3. THERE WERE NO QUESTIONS ON TIMOR AT NOON BRIEFING.  
VANCE  
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** baa45cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON TIMOR  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, PINS, SHUM, ID  
**To:** JAKARTA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/baa45cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009